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Annual Report

OF THE TOWN OF

LANGDON

NEW HAMPSHIRE

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FOR THE YEAR ENDING

FEBRUARY 15, 1908

ADVOCATE PRESS, CLAREMONT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS

OF THE TOWN OF

LANGDON, N. H.

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 15th, 1908

AND THE VITAL STATISTICS

FOR THE YEAR 1907.

CLAREMONT, N. H.:
THE CLAREMONT ADVOCATE PRESS,
1908.

Report of Selectmen

Taxes required to be assessed in town April, 1907.

State tax,	$ 355.00
County tax,	543.91
School tax required by law,	532.50
School tax additional by vote of town,	250.00
Highways and bridges,	596.36
Town charges,	600.00
Library tax,	21.30
Overlay,	123.79
	$3,021.86

Rate of taxation, $1.52 on each $1.00.

INVOICE APRIL 1, 1907

Polls,	85	$ 8,500.00
Real estate,		139,470.00
Horses,	142	12,916.00
Oxen,	10	592.00
Cows,	339	10,948.00
Neat stock,	186	4,294.00
Sheep,	434	1,960.00
Hogs,	5	58.00
Goats,	5	20.00
Fowls,	300	150.00
Automobile,	1	170.00
Public funds,		400.00
Stock in banks,		200.00
Money at interest,		16,978.00
Stock in trade,		852.00
Mills and machinery,		1,486.00
		$198,994.00

TREASURER'S REPORT

For the year ending Feb. 15, 1908.

Feb. 15, 1907, cash in treasury,	$ 232.85
Received from Sullivan county, support of paupers,	186.55
Town clerk, dog licenses,	70.40
Prentiss fund,	13.50
State for state highway,	344.70
State savings bank tax,	111.94
Rent of town hall,	7.42
Tax collector,	2,243.71
" interest on taxes,	4.05
Selectmen,	27.47
	$3,249.59

DISBURSEMENTS

Paid county tax,	$ 543.91
state tax,	355.00
on selectmen's orders,	2,350.68
	$3,249.59

HENRY J. LASELLE, Treasurer.

TOWN OFFICERS

Charles A. Jefts, selectman 1906,	$ 48.50
Robert J. Hammond, 2nd selectman 1906,	25.00
James A. Hall, 3rd selectman 1906,	28.00
George W. Ramsey, town clerk 1907,	21.00
Herbert A. Holmes, collector 1907,	40.00
Henry J. LaSelle, treasurer 1907,	25.00
Frank R. Bates, sexton 1907,	25.40
Mrs. E. J. LaSelle, librarian 1907,	15.00
Mrs. E. J. LaSelle, school treasurer 1907,	5.00
Henry E. Smith, supervisor 1905 and 1906,	4.00
C. C. Plimpton, supervisor 1907,	2.00
James W. Bascom, district clerk,	1.00
Charles Winch, auditor,	1.00
	$ 240.90

SCHOOL BOARD

James W. Bascom, services,	$ 2.00
Charles A. Jefts, services,	6.00
	$ 8.00

COUNTY PAUPERS

Paid for benefit of Milton J. Clark,	$ 173.69
Balance due from Sullivan county Feb. 15, 1907,	50.47
	224.16
Received from Sullivan county,	186.55
Due from the county on M. J. Clark's account,	37.61
Paid for benefit of Howard Colburn,	174.84
Feb. 15, 1908, due from Sullivan county,	$ 212.45

DAMAGE BY DOGS

Alvin S. Cram, one sheep killed and damage to flock,	$10.00

DOG LICENSES

Received for dog licenses,		$ 77.40
Paid services of constable,	6.00	
Paid damages to sheep,	10.00	
		16.00
Balance to be paid school treasurer April 1, 1908,		$ 61.40

ORDERS DRAWN TO REPAIR HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES

Charles H. Green, supervisor in District No. 1,	$ 32.95
M. F. Bragg, " " No. 2,	57.03
John W. Jefts, " " No. 3,	50.00
Herbert G. Lamb, " " No. 4,	32.00
Herbert A. Holmes, " " No. 5,	32.21
Charles C. Plimpton, " " No. 6,	38.93
Fred C. Leach, " " No. 7,	58.30
George G. Bowen, stringers and plank,	46.84
James A. Hall, plank,	4.45
Selectmen labor, planking bridge,	5.34
John W. Jefts, railing,	.50
James W. Bascom,	1.50
James Brooks, railing on river road,	2.50
Alvin S. Cram, railing and spikes,	2.85
Henry E. Smith, snowing bridge,	2.00
	$ 367.44

ORDERS DRAWN FOR BREAKING ROADS

C. C. Plimpton, February and March 1907,	$ 13.95
David A. Mann, " " "	2.40
Fred A. Mann, " " "	1.35
C. C. Plimpton, February 1908,	6.30
W. L. Lakin,	1.50
James W. Bascom,	2.40
Robert H. Wheeler,	1.60
Edwin H. Clark in winter of 1906 and 1907,	4.50
William Roberts, winter of 1906,	3.30
" " 1907,	10.65
	$ 47.95

STATE HIGHWAY

Chester LaSelle, labor,	$ 33.75
Charles H. Wright, labor,	29.49
Clifford B. Marvin, labor,	27.13
E. W. Henry, labor,	8.75
Harlie R. Henry, labor,	21.00
Eugene C. Mann, labor,	25.73
Fred A. Mann, labor,	32.56
David A. Mann, labor,	42.90
John W. Jefts, labor,	35.43
George W. Ramsey, labor,	6.00
Frank R. Bates,	24.05
David Andrews,	29.70
George Porter,	24.50
Robert J. Hammond,	8.00
Rollin A. Booth,	6.13
Maurice Hayes,	5.25
Fred C. Leach,	1.75
Horace C. Hurd,	1.75
Howard Hardware Co., dynamite and supplies,	14 42
John H. Dickey, fuse,	.85
George Savery, gravel,	7.80
Henry W. Porter, gravel,	30.90
Alvin S. Cram,	7.00
James A. Hall, man and team,	70.00
Charles C. Plimpton, self, man and team,	147.00
	$ 641.89

ORDERS DRAWN FOR MISCELLANEOUS PURPOSES

E. M. Smith, service as counsel and expense at hearing at Concord and hearing at Keene on the bridge case, Walpole vs. Langdon,	$ 130.00
Edson C. Eastman, selectmen's inventory book and blank,	13.44
School district treasurer's unexpended dog license of 1906,	64.25
School supplies,	21.18
Library trustee, library tax,	21.30
Eleazon Porter, payment on note and interest,	346.76
E. L. Elliott, printing reports,	18.25
" printing check list,	3.57
E. L. Walker, insurance on town hall,	3.00
F. H. Frost, wood for town hall,	1.50
W. H. Wilson, watering trough 1907,	3.00
H. A. Holmes, abatement of two poll taxes,	3.04
Expended on Prentiss lots in cemetery,	13.50
George W. Tibbetts, repairs for road machine and express,	10.05
James A. Hall, lumber and making tool box,	3.00
G. T. Woodell, repairing road machine,	2.00
J. H. Dickey, tools for highway work,	5.50
Howard Hardware Co., tools for highway work,	5.69
J. L. Nash, stoneboat,	1.50
C. C. Plimpton, pail, dipper and axe,	1.05
E. M. Smith, retaining fee,	5.00
B. T. Mousley, M. D., returning births and deaths,	1.25
G. W. Ramsey, recording births and deaths,	2.10
	$679.93

RECAPITULATION

Town officers	$ 240.90
School board	8.00
County paupers	212.45
Damage by dogs and service of constable	16.00
Highways and bridges	367.44
Breaking roads	47.95
State tax	355.00
County tax	543.90
State highway	641.89
Miscellaneous	679.93
	$3,113.47

TRUST FUNDS

The Prentiss fund is invested in the Bellows Falls Savings Institution and the interest is devoted to the care of the Prentiss lot in the south cemetery, $13.50 expended the past year.

A bequest of $100 from estate of Martha Ann Bowles received May 26th and invested in the Bellows Falls Savings Institution June 6th the interest to be used annually in care of the Reed lot in south cemetery. A fund of $93 received from estate of Mary E. Holden and invested in the Bellows Falls Savings Institution, the interest to be used annually in care of the John W. Holden lot in cemetery at Langdon.

ASSETS

Due from Sullivan county Feb. 15, 1908	$212 45

TOWN NOTES OUTSTANDING

Note to E. Porter, interest 3½ per cent.	$890 00
Note to Alvin S. Cram	27 47
	$917 47

A bill of $75 presented by Ira Colby & Son as counsel and services on the toll bridge case was received too late for settlement.

Respectfully submitted,

ALVIN S. CRAM,
JAMES A. HALL,
CHAS. C. PLIMPTON,
} Selectmen of Langdon

I hereby certify that I have examined the Selectmen's and Treasurer's accounts as required by law and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

CHARLES WINCH, Auditor.

Langdon, N. H., Feb. 15th, 1908.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

DR.

To cash on hand Feb. 15th, 1907	$ 3.43	
Oct. 23 Library tax	21.30	24.73

CR.

Oct. 10 50 books bought of W. P. Goodman	18.96	
15 Express on books	1.15	
Paper for covers	.25	
Cash in treasury Feb. 15, 1908	4.37	$24.73

No books have been retained over time during the year and the books have been read with much apparent interest and the usual degree of general interest in the library has been strongly manifested.

CHARLES WINCH, Secretary of Trustees.

DISTRICT TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 15, 1908.

Cash in treasury Feb. 15, 1907,	$ 184.42	
Cash received from tax collector,	782.50	
Literary fund,	26.84	
State for support of Superintendent,	50.00	
Unexpended dog license of 1906,	64.25	
Received from Town for school supplies,	21.18	
		$1,129.19

DISBURSEMENTS

Paid on orders,	$ 671.74	
Cash on hand,	457.45	
		$1,129.19

MRS. ELSIE J. LASELLE, School Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Number of schools maintained,	2
" terms of school,	5
" weeks in spring,	20
" weeks in fall,	25½
" weeks in winter,	12
Whole number of weeks,	64½
Number of pupils reported,	49
Girls,	21
Boys,	28
Number in actual attendance,	40
Attending in adjoining towns,	8

Names of teachers employed:

SPRING TERM

School, No. 1,	Myra Morrill
" 3,	Catherine C. Higgins

FALL TERM

School No. 1,	Bertha Ramsey
" 3,	Anna M. Barry

WINTER TERM

School No. 3. Anna M. Barry

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Orders drawn on District Treasurer,	$671.74

EXPENDITURES

Myra Morrill, teaching 10 weeks,	$ 70.00
Catherine C. Higgins, teaching 10 weeks,	85.00
Bertha Ramsey, teaching 15 weeks,	105.00
Anna M. Barry, teaching 20½ weeks,	184.50
	$444.50

SALARY OF SUPERINTENDENT

Alfred B. Morrill,	$108.33

TUITION ADJOINING TOWNS

Charlestown,	$10.00

CONVEYING SCHOLARS

C. J. Fifield, 1906,	$ 7.00
H. S. Campbell, 1906,	18.00
	$25.00

REPAIRS

Howard Hardware Co., paint and oil,	$11.53
Shepardson & Pollard, paint,	4.00
J. W. Jefts, repairs No. 3,	1.75
C. A. Jefts, shingles,	1.00
W. D. Knowlton, repairing clock,	1.00
	$19.28
Care of schoolhouses,	9.25
Cleaning schoolhouses,	5.00
Wood,	25.70
Books, supplies, telephone, postage,	21.78
Miscellaneous,	2.90

RECAPITULATION

Orders drawn on Dist. Treas. for support of schools,		$671.74

EXPENDITURES

Wages of teachers, including board,	$444.50	
Salary of Superintendent,	108.33	
Tuition,	10.00	
Conveying scholars, 1906,	25.00	

Repairs,	19.28	
Care of schoolhouses,	9.25	
Cleaning schoolhouses,	5.00	
Wood,	25.70	
Books, supplies, telephone, postage,	21.78	
Miscellaneous,	2.90	
		$671.74

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES A. JEFTS,
WARREN H. BLACKMAR, } School Board
JAMES W. BASCOM,

I hereby certify that I have examined the accounts of the School Board and Treasurer and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

CHARLES WINCH,
Auditor of School District.

Langdon, N. H., Feb. 15, 1908.

Report of Superintendent of Schools

To the School Board of Langdon:

I have the pleasure of submitting to you, and through you to the citizens of your town, the sixth annual report of the Superintendent of Schools.

STATISTICAL TABLE, AUG. 1906 TO AUG. 1907.

School	Teachers	Whole enrollment	Average membership	Average attendance	Per cent of attendance	No. cases of tardiness	Wages per month	Number of visitors
Village	Charlotte M. Belknap, fall Catherine L. Higgins, winter and spring	30	25	22	90	95	34	49
No. 1	Anna B. Stoddard, fall Myra Morrill, spring	13	12	11	94	17	28	54

	1900-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07
Whole number,	54	53	28	36	45	51	43
Average membership,	41	53	28	26—	42	41	37
Average attendance,	35	35	24+	23—	40	36	33
Per cent. of attendance,	85+	66	86	88	95	90—	92

REVENUE.

All schools of New Hampshire receive revenue from three sources.

1. School Money Required by Law.—This is found by multiplying the apportioned ratio in the general state tax by 750. Thus Concord in a recent year paid $68.26 in every $1000 of the general state levy. Hence Concord raised for school purposes $68.26 x 750 = $51,195.

2. Literary Fund.—This source is not correctly named. It is really the annual income from taxes upon deposits and stocks in savings banks, loan and trust companies of persons who do not live in the state or whose residence is unknown. This revenue is distributed among the districts in direct proportion to the number of pupils five years of age and over who have attended school at least two weeks during the previous year.

3. Dog Tax.—The proceeds of the dog tax are applied first to pay for damages done by dogs to domestic animals. The balance is available by law for the support of schools. The literary fund and the dog tax each amount to about $40,000 per year for the whole state.

A district may receive revenue from one or more of the following five sources.

4. Additional Local Taxation.—Every district may raise more than the amount required by law. The average raised in this way throughout the state is about one-half as much as the amount required by law.

5. Equalization Fund.—$18,750 is annually distributed among the poorer districts of the state in direct ratio to the number of children in average attendance, and in inverse ratio to the equalized valuation per pupil.

6. High School Tuition.—Districts not maintaining high schools receive a rebate from the state for tuition paid by them, in approved high schools or academies, provided their school tax is $3.50 or more on one thousand dollars, and their general tax is $16.50 or more on one thousand. The rebate increases as the rate of general tax increases.

7. Superintendent's Salary.—Districts uniting with others to form supervisory unions receive as a rebate one-half of the salary of the Superintendent.

8. Local Funds.—Local endowment funds have been given to some districts, the income of which is available for school purposes.

Langdon schools receive revenue from only five of these eight sources. No share of the equalization fund is available for us, for our valuation per pupil of average attendance is too high; no high school tuition will be refunded to us because our tax rates are not as high as those required by law; and there are no funds whose income is available for the use of the schools. But from the other sources enough is received to do good work. But the burden to the tax-payers is not heavy, and I would recommend that the length of the schools be increased. The average for the state is now about thirty-two weeks.

If Langdon should make the average appropriations of the State the sums would be as follows:

Required by Law (1908)	$487.50
Additional (50 per cent. of required sum)	240.00
Books and supplies (10 per ct. of required sum)	50.00

These sums with the money from other sources would enable the school board to pay sufficient to secure and hold trained teachers, to lengthen the school year, to add reference books of permanent value, some new readers, physiologies and arithmetics, make a few needed repairs, and in short to keep the schools of Langdon in the front rank as a progressive and inspiring force in the lives of our young people.

TEACHERS.

Much work of the best kind has been accomplished this year. The interest on the part of the pupils has been marked, and must be gratifying to teachers and parents alike.

"PARENTS' DAY."

I suppose it is understood that parents are always welcome in the schools. But to encourage more visiting by parents, I shall have an occasional "parents' day" when they will be specially invited to come in and see the work of the school. I hope that in this way the teachers, parents, pupils and superintendent may become better acquainted, and the importance of the school be increased in the eyes of the pupils, to the end that the schools may become a more vital force in moulding and inspiring the lives of our young people.

On these days we should have some of the regular work of the day, some review work, some sight advance work to show what power the pupils are acquiring. There would also be some singing at the village school as the new organ will be in use.

I think the teacher and the young people are to be congratulated for their success in securing an organ, and I hope we may see a way to get one for No. 1 school.

ECONOMY.

Our State Superintendent has something to say in his last report on the subject of school economy, that I think is worth emphasizing.

"In any study of the economy of school administration, one of the most important considerations, if not indeed the basal consideration of all, is the principle that teachers' salaries and, to a less extent, suitable apparatus should absorb as much as possible of the total expenditures and all other matters as little as possible. It is difficult to fix a hard and fast proportion which teachers' salaries ought to bear to total expenditures. Generally speaking it may be said that the experience of the country, seems to indicate that where teachers' salaries, except under unusual and special conditions, fall below seventy per cent. of the total expenditure, it is time to see if something is not wrong. Every dollar saved on coal, wood, paper, pencils, etc., and placed to the credit of teachers' salaries is a point gained in the interest of truly economical administration."

I am heartily in accord with this. I am in favor of getting teachers of Normal training in each of our schools, of paying them enough to retain them for a series of years, of furnishing them equipment enough for the best work, but of using the utmost economy in the purchasing of all supplies.

CONCLUSION

With thanks for the earnestness of teachers, for the sympathy and support of the school board, for the enthusiasm and loyalty of the pupils, all of which has helped to make my work pleasant, this report is respectfully submitted.

ALFRED B. MORRILL.

VITAL STATISTICS.

In compliance with an act of the Legislature passed June Session, 1887, requiring "clerks of towns and cities to furnish a transcript of the record of the births, marriages and deaths, to the municipal officers for publication in the Annual Report," we submit the following:

BIRTHS

REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF LANGDON, N. H., FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1907.

Date, 1907	Name of child (if any)	Sex and Condition: Male or Female	Sex and Condition: Living or Stillborn	Sex and Condition: Number of Child	Sex and Condition: Color	Name of Father	Maiden Name of Mother	Parents' Color	Residence of Parents	Occupation of Father	Birthplace and age of Father		Birthplace and age of Mother	
Mar. 9	Hall	M	L	1	White	James A. Hall	Esther M. Guild	White	Langdon	Farmer	Keene	28	Walpole	33
Apr. 5	Mary M. Soucie	F	L	5		Henry J. Soucie	Jennie E. Morse			"	Hanover	29	Norwich, Vt.	22
Apr. 7	Green	F	L	3		Charles H. Green	Nellie L. Fisk			"	Gilsum	35	Charlestown	37
Aug. 16	Green	F	L	8		Fred E. Green	Ada Holt			"	Walpole	45	Keene	41
Sept. 14	Brooks	M	L	3		James C. Brooks	Annie Shortsleeves			Mason	Morse, N. Y.	37	Rutland, Vt	39

MARRIAGES

REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF LANGDON, N. H., FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1907.

Date 1907	Place of Marriage	Name and Surname of Groom and Bride	Residence of each at Time of Marriage	Age, yrs.	Color	Occupation of Groom and Bride	Place of Birth of Groom and Bride	Name of Parents	Birthplace of Parents	No. Marriage	Name, Residence and Official Station of Person by whom married
July 29		Charles H. Bushway	Langdon	21	White	Farmer	North Walpole	Thomas Bushway Delia Hobart	Canada Canada	1	Rev. Edwa'd Reynolds Bellows Falls, Vt.
		Virginia E. Livermore	Bellows Falls, Vt.	19		Housekeeper	Rockingham, Vt.	Virgil Livermore		1	

DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF LANGDON, N. H., FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1907.

Date 1907	Name and Surname of the Deceased	Age Y	Age M	Age D	Place of Birth	Sex and Condition: Male	Sex and Condition: Female	Sex and Condition: Color	Sex and Condition: Sin. M. or W'd	Occupation	Place of Birth: Father	Place of Birth: Mother	Name of Father	Name of Mother
Jan. 5	Elvira R. Hutchins	73	9	2	Alstead		F	White	W	Retired m'rch'nt	Stoddard	Langdon	Joseph Tarble	Nancy Smith
Feb. 1	John Woodcock	97	8	27	Acton	M			W	Farmer			John Woodcock	Polly Corey
22	Caroline A. Colburn	64	6	14	Charlestown		F		W		Hinsdale	Alstead	Gardner C. Cutler	Olive H. Watts
Mar. 11	Hall			2	Langdon	M					Keene	Walpole	James A. Hall	Esther M. Guild
June 4	*Albert E. Hammond	26				M			S	Farmer	E. Clifton, Que.	Chatham, Can.	Wm. Hammond	Sarah Mullen
July 6	Harry Hammond	2	11	13	Saxtons River	M			S		Waterford, Me.	Boston, Mass.	Robt. J. Hammond	M. L. Robertson
Sept. 22	Albert Willard Bidwell	70	9	9	Langdon	M			W	Farmer			Edmund Bidwell	Dianna Jefts
Nov. 25	CharlesM. Lufkin	73	3	6	Acworth	M			M	Physician	Acworth	Acworth	Ezra Lufkin	Louisa Mathewson

*Boston, Mass.

I hereby certify that the foregoing returns of Births, Marriages and Deaths are correct, according to my best knowledge and belief

GEO. W. RAMSEY, TOWN CLERK.